

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday December 8th 2002

Recent 50 MHz openings from EI

There have been a number of good openings in the last 2 weeks on 50 MHz with Aurora, Sporadic-E and F2 propagation evident on the band.

On the 12th of November last, Gulli, TF8GX, worked 4 EI stations. They were EI7IX at 23:31, EI3EBB at 23:32, EI6IZ at 23:33 and EI7BMB at 23:26. There have been several openings to Africa with EI stations working C56R (Gambia), 9L1AB (Sierra Leone), D44TD (Cape Verde Is.), 3XY7C (Guinea) and XT2WP (Burkina Faso).

Mayo Radio Experimenters Network

The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network have announced Saturday December the 21st as the date for their annual Christmas Dinner. The venue is The Clew Bay Hotel, Westport. The club regularly meets in a private room at Stensons of Ballyvary on the N5 and the meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The night classes will continue at the Park House, Parnell Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford at 7.15 p.m. on Monday nights and will continue until the 23rd of December.

The clubs Christmas get-together will take place in Garveys' lounge, Ballytruckle, Waterford on Saturday the 14th of December at 8.00 p.m. All are welcome.

Contest & DX News

6F1LM will be QRV until December the 31st from Mexico for the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the FMRE (Federacion Mexicana de Radio Experimentadores).

To celebrate the first year of the Foundation Licence in the UK it is proposed to hold a

'QSO Party' to which all M3s are invited. The event will take place on the 1st of January on 40 metres at 1000 and 1500 UTC.

Space News

The international Space Station has a new crew which plans to start operating the ARISS Amateur Radio station in about three weeks. They boarded the station on Monday the 25th of November. They plan to be there for about 6 months. All three are licensed radio amateurs.

No success on 144 MHz Trans-Atlantic attempt

A group of German radio amateurs attempted to make a 144 MHz Trans-Atlantic contact on the 19th of November last during the peak of the Leonids meteor shower. The EI crew operated operating from IO41TU using the callsign EI2TAA (Transatlantic Attempt) and running 750 Watts.

Transatlantic tests started at around 0200 UTC but due to heavy storms in the west the crew used light with less gain than the planned M-Squares, however, under the mechanical load of the storm the yagis gave some unwanted noise, so the test in the 1st Leonid peak failed.

During the transmission from the VO1 crew the HV-Trafo on the linear amplifier failed. Both crews decided that even using the optimum scale the conditions were not in favor of making the elusive transatlantic 2 metre QSO.

North Korean Amateur Closed Down

Ed, P5/4L4FN, the only amateur radio station operating legally from North Korea, has had to close down. On the evening of the 22nd of November, Ed was asked to attend a meeting with the North Korean Radio Regulation Board. Without any explanation he was politely asked to stop all transmissions and to pack up all his radio equipment.

Experimental Transmissions on 5.3 MHz

The Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland has been granted experimental authorisation to transmit on CW and USB on seven spot frequencies around 5.3 MHz for a number of four-day periods. VO1MRC is authorised to operate on 5260, 5269, 5280, 5290, 5319, 5329 and 5400 kHz between the 20th and 23rd of December 2002

and also from the 20th to the 23rd of June 2003. The purpose of the experiment is to look at the differences in ground wave and sky wave propagation on 3.5, 5.3 and 7MHz.

Items for inclusion in Echo Ireland should be forwarded to Dave Moore EI4BZ at 021-4883555. Items can also be submitted to Dave by e-mail at ei4bz@eircom.net.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The 9th annual Christmas dinner of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will take place on Saturday 21st of December at Raheen House Hotel. Raheen Road Clonmel. anyone wishing to attend should contact Ron at 052 21654 for full details.

Items for inclusion in the Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall EI7IS at QTHR or via e-mail cyberis@vodafone.ie. Items can also be sent to Mark over the phone at 087-6302026 or by fax at 087-5-6302026.

News can also be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both news services.

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